

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 RSR-01 /115 W

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R 150820 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6006

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BLANTYRE 398

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MI, CB

SUBJ: VISIT OF KHMER FONMIN LONG BORET

REF: BLANTYRE 331

1. AT MEETING MARCH 14 PRESIDENT BANDA PROVIDED FOLLOWING ABOUT VISIT OF KHMER FONMIN LONG BORET. DURING CALL ON PRESIDENT, LONG BORET SOUGHT DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION FROM MALAWI. APPARENTLY AT SOME LENGTH HE ALSO SET FORTH KHMER REPUBLIC' S CONCERNS OVER FUTURE RELATIONS WITH U. S. LONG BORET FEARED U. S. WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA WOULD EXPOSE HIS COUNTRY TO SERIOUS DANGER OF COMMUNIST TAKEOVER. HE REFERRED TO MALAWI' S STAUNCH ANTI- COMMUNIST POLICIES AND TO MALAWI' S CLOSE RELATIONS WITH U. S. AND EXPRESSED HOPE MALAWI WOULD HELP BRING HOME TO U. S. DANGERS OF TOO COMPLETE A WITHDRAWAL FROM SEA. PRESIDENT SAID HE TOLD LONG BORET THAT MALAWI SUPPORTED KHMER' S EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN ITS INDEPENDENCE AND THAT MALAWI WOULD STUDY THE QUESTION OF DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION.

2. PRESIDENT WENT ON TO SPEAK OF HISTORIC VALUE OF U. S. STAND IN SEA WHICH HAD PREVENTED ONWARD SWEEP OF COMMUNISM. HIS REMARKS WERE SIMILAR TO THOSE MADE IN PARLIAMENT MARCH 13 (BLANTYRE 386 AND 388 NOTAL). IN REPLY I REVIEWED OUR
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THINKING ABOUT CEASE- FIRE AGREEMENT IN VIETNAM.

3. GOM GAVE RECEPTION FOR KHMER DELEGATION HOSTED BY MINISTER OF STATE MUWALO AND MUWALO AND THREE OTHER MINISTERS ATTENDED DINNER GIVEN BY LONG BORET. PRESS REPORTED EXCHANGE OF FRIENDLY REMARKS. THESE FUNCTIONS PLUS AUDIENCE GRANTED BY PRESIDENT BANDA CONTRASTED WITH FAILURE BANDA TO RECEIVE NORTH KOREANS AND OF GOM TO OFFER HOSPITALITY.

4. COMMENT: LONG BORET' S REMARKS ABOUT DANGERS OF U. S. WITHDRAWAL PROBABLY STRUCK RESPONSIVE CHORD IN PRESIDENT BANDA. HE RETAINS HIS STRONG PERSONAL ANTIPATHY TO COMMUNISM AND BELIEF THAT ONLY FIRM, FORCEFUL STAND WILL PREVENT COMMUNIST EXPANSION. PRESIDENT REMAINS APPREHENSIVE OVER ABILITY VIETNAM, KHMER AND LAOS, PARTICULARLY LATTER TWO, TO STAND UP TO WHAT HE EXPECTS WILL BE CONTINUING COMMUNIST PRESSURE AFTER U. S. WITHDRAWAL.
BURDETT

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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